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## BENSON READY TO TWIST THE LION'S TAIL

### ONE TO ADVISE SIMS TO LOOK OUT

### Warning About "Pulling Wool," However, Not Part of Orders.

Washington, March 22.—Rear Admiral William S. Benson, then chief of naval operations, was the official who told Rear Admiral Sims "not to let the British pull the wool over your eyes; we would soon fight them as the Germans."

### Not Part of Instructions.

Admiral Sims said he had received his final instructions from Secretary Daniels preparatory to his departure for England on the eve of the entry of the United States into the war. He added, however, that it was not made in the course of formal instructions, but during a conversation in the office of Rear Admiral Palmer, chief of the bureau of navigation.

### Paid Little Attention.

Admiral Sims said he did not pay particular attention to the statement at that time because he believed Admiral Benson was intended to be humorous. He said that he was entertained generally throughout the service.

### An Aid Recently Called His Attention.

An aid recently called his attention to the remark, the admiral said, and Admiral Palmer also told him that he remembered hearing Admiral Benson make the statement.

### The witness was reluctant to give the name of the officer, but

Admiral Sims said he was told that he would tell the whole story, said Admiral Sims. "Early in April, 1917, I was ordered from my post at Newport to Washington. When I arrived I reported to the navy department by telephone and was told not to come to the department, but to get in touch with the chief of the bureau of navigation, Rear Admiral Leigh C. Palmer. Everything was very secret, the chief of the bureau of navigation, then and so I reported to him later at the department and then I had an interview with the secretary of the navy in his office. No one else was present as I remember. The interview was very brief. I was told that I was going abroad to confer with the allied admirals and that Ambassador Bland had requested that an officer of high rank be sent there for that purpose. After leaving Secretary Daniels' office, or just before going there, I don't remember which, I went to the bureau of navigation. The admiral was there and it was at that time that the remark of the chairman has asked me about was made."

### "Whom do you refer to, the admiral?"

asked Chairman Hale. "I referred to Admiral Benson," said the witness. "I had always regarded the admiral as a 'personal prejudice' on the part of Admiral Benson. He described the former chief of operations as 'an upstanding, honest man who has strong convictions,' and added he believed everything that Admiral Benson did during the war was done 'conscientiously.'"

### Benson Gave Him Post.

It was due largely to Admiral Benson's confidence in him that he was selected to the high post as chief of operations during the war, Admiral Sims said, adding that in urging his selection Admiral Benson insured the dislike of many officers to Admiral Sims who desired the post.

### Senator Pittman, Democrat, Nevada,

asked if in view of the anti-British sentiments of Admiral Benson, that officer had not acted in a broad minded way in sending Admiral Sims to London.

### The witness replied that Admiral Benson had always been "fair and square."

### STATE OF ELLA

W. WILCOX \$77,223

### New Haven, Conn., March 22.—An

appraisal of the estate of Ella Wheeler Wilcox, author who died recently, has been filed in the probate court at Hartford. It was announced Saturday night, and places the total value of the estate at \$77,223.

### CHRISTIAN AND MOSLEM UNITE UNDER FEISAL

### New Syrian King Undertaking Unique Peace Campaign.

Beirut, March 22.—(By The Associated Press.)—Emir Feisal, the newly elected king of Syria, has declared a boycott against countries occupying territory of Arabs—France and England—and has organized a commission for the purpose of bringing Moslems and Christians into a better understanding.

Posters displayed at Damascus, where the Syrian congress proclaimed the independence of that country, declared: "In spite of himself, the Moslem is brother to the Christian and the Jew. The Arabs existed before Christ, Moses or Mohammed, and freedom and independence are rights of Syria. Religion is of God and the Fatherland belongs to his children."

The Syrian congress signed a decree asking foreigners to evacuate that region, and Palestine and Mesopotamia are reported to have been included. A committee organized in Lebanon has issued a statement alleging that the district was illegally represented in the congress of Damascus when the independence of Syria was declared.

### UNDESIRABLES GO ALONG WITH FOOD TO RUSSIA

### Every Relief Ship Hereafter Will Be An "Ark" To Carry Aliens From United States.

New York, March 22.—Relief ships to be sent by the United States within the next month with flour for needy countries of Europe also are going to be Soviet arks, according to information obtained from immigration officials today. More than 400 Russians, Finns and Poles from all parts of the country who have been found to have advocated the use of violence to overthrow the government, will be shipped on them in groups.

### Mixed Carriages In Future.

No repetition of the Buford's trip with an exclusive Soviet cargo is planned, but shipping board vessels on which the United States Grain corporation is going to ship 5,000,000 barrels of flour, will be utilized as well as commercial vessels. Russians and Finns probably will be sent to Hangou. The Poles probably will go to Danzig.

### Take Captives In Raid.

The deportees will include many who were arrested in the communist party raids in January as well as members of the Federation of Union of Russia workers, who arrived at Ellis Island too late to be deported on the Buford.

### The movement toward concentration

of reds at Ellis Island already has begun.

### SENATOR SEES LIBERAL G.O.P. PARTY REVOLT

Washington, March 22.—Warning that "Republican liberals" might form a new political party to fight "hourly autocracy" in an effort to restore individual liberty was sounded in the senate today by Senator France, Republican, Maryland.

"With repeal of national prohibition and the espionage act as the chief planks in its tentative platform," Senator France declared, the liberals need not hesitate "to raise the battle cry against the reactionary forces of autocracy and un-American bounborism."

### WOMEN VOTE IN PHILIPPINES.

Manila, P. I., March 21.—Women voted for the first time in Democratic presidential primaries, Saturday.

### Can Operate Muscle Shoals Plant at Big Profit, Baker Asserts

Washington, March 22.—An annual profit of \$2,900,000 would result from government operation of the Muscle Shoals, Ala., nitrate plant for manufacture of commercial fertilizer, Secretary Baker today told the senate agricultural committee. The secretary advocated passage of the war department bill to organize a \$12,500,000 government corporation to operate the plant for commercial purposes. The department's calculations, Mr. Baker said, showed that cyan-

### BREAK PEACE PACT MOVING THEIR FORCE

### Germans Invite Allied Repatrials Trying to Stem Ruhr Uprising.

Paris, March 22.—Spartan forces in the Ruhr valley of Germany number at least 20,000 and some estimate them at 40,000, according to latest advice to the foreign office. They are well organized and are supplied with artillery, machine guns and mine throwers.

Major Beerfeld, a relative of Maximilian Harden, is commander of these troops. He is also known as the man who published Prince Lichnowsky's report, blaming the German government for starting the world war, and was also prominent in previous spartacist troubles.

Ebert government authorities are concentrating troops and planning to surround the Ruhr valley and force the spartacists to capitulate. Violate Treaty.

The occupation of the Ruhr district by German troops is in direct violation of article 42 and 43 of the treaty of Versailles, it was pointed out at the foreign office, which added that this was the first act committed by Germany in violation of the treaty, the other violations being those of omission. It was indicated that the French government would take no separate action in the circumstances acting only after consultation with the allies.

### Two German officers have been

sent by the Ebert government to acquaint the French authorities with the situation in the Ruhr district. These officers are expected to reach Paris this evening.

### Prepare for Battle.

Stuttgart, Germany, March 22.—(By The Associated Press.)—Groups from Silesia are officially reported to have arrived in the Ruhr district, and fighting with the spartacist army there is expected tomorrow. It was officially stated here that the estimates placing the size of the red forces in the Ruhr region at 70,000 are exaggerated.

### Strike in Munich.

A general strike has been called in Munich and it is expected the movement will extend throughout Bavaria, unless it is stopped as a result of the negotiations now in progress to settle the demands of the working men to pay during the period they were on strike against the Kapp regime. Meetings are to be held by the councils of workmen to consider if similar action should be taken throughout Wuertemberg.

Reports from Nuremberg said that city was quiet on Sunday following some disorders the previous night. Outlook is Worse.

Berlin, March 21.—(By The Associated Press.)—The ministry of defense informed the correspondent this morning that the conditions in the Ruhr district were becoming worse. The towns of Oelde, Ahlen and Drensteinfurt, in Westphalia, southeast of Munster, had been taken by the communists, it was stated, and the movement was spreading north and east.

### Pitched battles had been fought,

the ministry's information showed, and two crack regiments of government troops have been forced to fall back on the fortress of Wesel, on the right bank of the Rhine, 22 miles northwest of Essen, after heavy losses had been sustained on both sides. Ten officers in one regiment were killed. The red army, it was added, was well armed with artillery.

### BROOKHART OUT TO GET SENATE SEAT IN CUMMINS' PLACE

Des Moines, Iowa, March 22.—Announcement of the candidacy of Colonel Smith Brookhart of Washington county for the Republican nomination of United States senator from Iowa, was published here today. He will oppose United States Senator Albert Cummins.

### Des Moines, Iowa, March 22.—An

annual profit of \$2,900,000 would result from government operation of the Muscle Shoals, Ala., nitrate plant for manufacture of commercial fertilizer, Secretary Baker today told the senate agricultural committee. The secretary advocated passage of the war department bill to organize a \$12,500,000 government corporation to operate the plant for commercial purposes. The department's calculations, Mr. Baker said, showed that cyan-

### OPEN DRIVE TO CHEAPEN MEAT TO THE PUBLIC

Illinois and Iowa Unite in Campaign Which Will Be Continued for a Week.

Chicago, March 22.—The federal fair price commission of Illinois today appealed to the people of the state to observe "save money on meat" week by buying the inexpensive meat cuts, which the public was declared to have neglected.

"This week was set aside by the department of justice to introduce you—the ultimate consumer—to some of the neglected parts of the beef carcass which are wholesome, nutritious and palatable," an announcement by the commission said.

### Iowa Does Same.

Des Moines, Iowa, March 22.—"Save money on meat" week will be observed in Iowa this week under the direction of H. G. Larimer, federal fair price commissioner for the state.

A campaign to reduce meat prices, conducted by the fair price commission for the last 30 days has had its effect in Iowa, so the results of "save money on meat" week were not expected to be marked.

### NEW TREATY BEING URGED BY GERMANS

Paris, March 22.—Germans are preparing a formidable world propaganda in favor of a revision of the Versailles treaty and the holding of a new international conference at which vanquished nations might be represented for the object of changing or eliminating many clauses of the present treaty between the allied nations and Germany, according to a Geneva dispatch.

A book entitled "The Greatest Crime of Humanity" has been prepared and 10,000,000 copies printed for free distribution, especially in America, England and France, and it is said that millions of other pamphlets along the same line will follow.

### Checked By Revolt.

The reactionary revolt in Berlin on March 13 put temporary stop to the movement, it is said. Captain Andre Tardieu, one of the French delegates to the peace conference, has written an article which appeared in L'Illustration, in which he declared himself as being opposed to any revision of the treaty.

### GENESEE GETS NEXT MEETING OF CONFERENCE

Freeport, Ill., March 22.—The Illinois Evangelical conference, before adjournment today, referred the question of participation in the inter-church world movement to the general conference, after expressing the opinion that "while leaders in the movement are sincere, this conference is not in accord with some of its aims."

### Genevieve was selected as the next

conference city. Principal assignments follow: Chicago: O. L. Walter, Adams street; G. O. Nielson, Ashland avenue; E. K. Yeager, Diversy Park; G. A. Walter, Hoyne avenue; V. S. Stakeholder, Irving Park; H. W. Lambert, Kimball avenue.

Joliet: R. S. Bingham; Naperville, L. C. Schmidt; Aurora, S. C. Howell; Barrington, B. R. Schultze; Dixon, C. G. Unangst; Freeport, J. Divan; Polo, P. O. Bailey; Rockford, F. B. Cardwell; Sterling, A. D. Shaffer; Stockton, G. S. Smith; El Paso, J. F. Vanover; Geneseo, E. K. Hershey; Ottawa, J. Divan; Streator, N. H. Willison; Terra Haute, F. W. Deutz.

### The Weather

Fair and warmer tonight with the temperature above freezing. Tuesday probably unsettled. Fresh and strong southerly winds. Highest yesterday, 53; lowest last night, 40. Wind velocity, 5 miles per hour. Precipitation, none. 12 m. 7 p.m. 7 a.m. Yesterday, today. Dry bulb tem. .43 49 42 Wet bulb tem. .42 42 39 Relative hum. .61 56 74 River stage 6.5, a rise of .5 in the last 48 hours. J. M. SHERIER, Meteorologist.

### P.H. WELLS IN ATTEMPT TO END HIS LIFE

### Well Known Attorney Under Mental Strain Uses Shotgun.

Attorney Philip H. Wells, well known attorney and former justice of the peace, made an attempt at suicide shortly after noon today by shooting himself with a shotgun at his home at 1609 Thirteenth avenue.

The load from the gun entered his left side, tearing a great hole in the flesh, but not penetrating the intestines, according to information given to Police Chief Tom Cox and Detectives Dennis Bennet and Charles Ginnane by Dr. Eli Bradford at the home shortly after the attempt at suicide was made. Wells also sustained a wounded right hand in the shooting, the bare details of which were learned by the police officers, who did not see him, but contented themselves with talking with the physician, Chief Cox said. The attorney was said to be conscious after the shooting and to have a chance for recovery.

Dr. Bradford refused to make any statement as to the nature of the wounds when called by The Argus. Intimate friends of Mr. Wells state that he had been laboring under severe strain, due to business cares, for some time, and for the last 10 days had been much depressed. It is believed this brought on a state of temporary mental aberration which resulted in the attempted tragedy.

Mr. Wells' family consists of his wife and mother, and an aunt. He has resided in Rock Island since youth.

### MOTORS UP 29 POINTS, FALLS 46, RALLIES 15

New York, March 22.—One of the most sensational movements in the recent history of the stock market took place during the early part of today's session. General Motors, which featured last week's bullish operations, added 29 points to its recent advance at the new high record of 409. This was followed within the first hour's active trading by a precipitate decline of 46 points.

The movement in General Motors, which apparently was directed largely against the short interests, was marked by gains of 2 to 10 points in other stocks, notably Stutz Motor, which also made a new high record at 228.

During the noon hour General Motors rallied almost 15 points and trading became active again under the stimulus of a fresh demand for steel, equipments, tobacco and some of the miscellaneous specialties.

Advances in those shares showed extreme gain of 2 to 12 points over last week's final prices.

### KEOKUK'S GROWTH SMALL, BUT ALTON SCORES BIG GAIN

Washington, March 22.—Population statistics announced today by the census bureau included: Alton, Ill., 24,714, an increase of 7,186, or 41.9 per cent over 1910. Newton, Iowa, 6,627, an increase of 2,011, or 43.6 per cent.

Bismarck, N. D., 6,951, an increase of 1,508, or 27.7 per cent. Keokuk, Iowa, 14,423, an increase of 415, or 3.0 per cent.

Columbia, Mo., 10,681, an increase of 1,019, 10.5 per cent. Columbia, S. C., 37,624, an increase of 11,205, 42.6 per cent over 1910.

### OPEN HEARINGS ON CHANGES IN RAILWAY RATES

Washington, March 22.—Hearings to determine the basis for an adjustment of railroad rates so as to yield the roads a return of 5 1/2 per cent on their aggregate value as provided in the new transportation law, began today before the interstate commerce commission.

The commission is to determine whether the adjustment shall be made for the carriers as a whole, or in rate groups or territories to be designated by it and what methods shall be employed in determining the aggregate value of the railroad property.

Representatives of practically all the railroads and shippers' organization were present.

### PARTIES' LINES HARD TO TRACE IN TREATY ROW

### Small Chance for It to Become Clearly Defined Election Issue.

BY DAVID LAWRENCE. (Special to The Argus.)

Washington, March 22.—Twenty-three Democrats stood with President Wilson; 21 Democrats deserted him. The treaty of Versailles signed last June is still unratified. Technically the United States is at war with Germany. America's foreign policy is undefined. And the dead-lock in the senate will be carried into the presidential and congressional elections for final settlement next November.

Briefly that tells the story of what has happened after nine months of wearisome debate. But the effect upon the future of both the Republican and Democratic parties is not as simply analyzed. True, the Republican party in the senate stood 28 for ratification with the Lodge reservations as against 12 who wanted neither treaty nor League of Nations. But the votes of the 12 were grouped with 23 Democrats who said they wanted the treaty but not the reservations to the league.

### No Party Question.

Any capable orator or writer of political textbooks who tries to fix the responsibility in the senate upon either the Democratic or Republican parties as such will have about as much chance of carrying conviction as the man who attempts to blame the failure of the treaty upon the disagreeable weather of the past winter.

For both Republicans and Democrats have voted on all sides of every motion proposed and the record of what occurred is about as confusing as an income tax report. But there is no escaping one outstanding fact—President Wilson has suffered the third defeat in 18 months. His loss of congress in November, 1918, was followed by the defeat of a ratification resolution of the treaty in November, 1919, and now in March, 1920, the treaty is formally sent back to him with the Democratic party in the senate split in two.

Mr. Wilson has lost the tight hold on his party which he once exercised. Hardly any Democratic senators from northern or western states remained with him. Only a handful of southern Democrats stood till the end. Nor can the split be measured on the basis of Bryan strength. There are men who deserted the president who have no use for Bryanism of any kind. But note the Democrats who favored ratifying the treaty with the Lodge reservations and the states from which they hail:

Kendrick of Wyoming, Chamber-

(Continued on Page Seven.)

### MORE PAY OR CHICAGO CITY FORCES STRIKE

Chicago, March 22.—Chicago's city hall will be closed Thursday by a general strike of 600 clerks, stenographers, typists and other employees unless the city council grants a flat wage increase of \$25 per month, councilmen were notified this morning.

Representatives of the municipal employees' union served notice on council this morning. Eight hundred city chauffeurs and teamsters struck this morning. Five hundred street sweepers were thrown out of work as a result. At the request of Health Commissioners John Dille Robertson, city ambulance chauffeurs agreed to remain at work.

### MINERS WON'T HEAR TALK BY LABOR LEADER

Peoria, Ill., March 22.—The Socialist Labor party was given a hard slap at the Illinois Mine Workers' convention here this morning when the convention voted to refuse the floor to Samuel French, representative of the party.

### WILSON GIVES NO IDEA OF PLANS ON TREATY OF PEACE

Washington, March 22.—The official copy of the treaty of Versailles, which President Wilson brought from Paris and personally to the senate and which was returned to the White House Saturday, is again in the president's possession.

### Woman Made Member Of Civil Service Board

Washington, March 22.—Helen Hamilton Gardner of this city, widow of Colonel S. A. Day, and author and writer, was nominated today by President Wilson as a member of the civil service commission. She will succeed Charles M. Galloway, of Columbia, S. C., who was "ousted" from the commission last year after the president had determined to reorganize it.

Mrs. Gardner, who is the first

### GERMANY MOSTLY ARMED CAMP, HEAVY SLAUGHTER GOING ON IN MANY CITIES

### Spartacans Making Desperate Organized Resistance to Efforts of Government to Restore Order, Especially in North and East.

Coblenz, March 21.—Three thousand persons were killed in Leipsic when government troops took the town Friday, according to three Americans who arrived here from Leipsic.

### TOTAL DEAD 8,000.

Paris, March 22.—(Havas.)—Eight thousand persons have been killed since the German revolt broke out on March 13, according to advices received here. Of this number 850 were killed in Berlin alone.

### LORD MAYOR'S MURDER CAUSE OF SENSATION

Ireland Said to Be Under Domination of Societies Sworn to Murder Program.

Cork, March 22.—Thousands of persons assembled at the city hall today in preparation for the funeral of Thomas MacCurtain, lord mayor of Cork, who was shot to death by an unknown assassin early Saturday morning. Trains brought great crowds to the city today and the shops were closed in order to afford the citizens an opportunity of testifying their respect for the late lord mayor.

There is a grave and tense feeling in the city. Bishop Colahan has appealed to the population to preserve order. Causes Deep Sensation.

London, March 22.—Dispatches from Ireland show the murder of Thomas MacCurtain, lord mayor of Cork, to have produced an intense, if subdued, sensation throughout Ireland. This tragedy, says the London Times correspondent in Dublin, "closed one of the blackest weeks since the rebellion of 1916." He gives a long list of outrages in various parts of the island, including five murders of policemen and others and an attempt to kill Prof. Stockley of Cork.

### No Motive Seen.

No motive for the murder has been uncovered. No arrests have been reported, nor so far as known have any clues to the perpetrators been obtained. Among the theories advanced is one that MacCurtain was murdered as a warning to others because he recently had the courage to publicly deprecate an attempt to murder a policeman in Cork.

London newspapers, while unreservedly condemning the crime, maintain it does not differ from those which have long terrorized Ireland. It is declared that Ireland is for the moment largely under the domination of secret murder societies, the members of which are sworn to kill those whom they believe to stand in their way.

### Some Call It Anarchy.

Even newspapers which support home rule, denounce Ireland for condoning methods which, they say, are fast establishing a condition of anarchy and terrorism.

### WILSON GIVES NO IDEA OF PLANS ON TREATY OF PEACE

Washington, March 22.—The official copy of the treaty of Versailles, which President Wilson brought from Paris and personally to the senate and which was returned to the White House Saturday, is again in the president's possession.

Secretary Tumulty received the treaty from George A. Sanderson, secretary of the senate, and later delivered it to Mr. Wilson. No word came from the White House today as to the president's probable course with regard to the treaty.

### CHILE CALM IN FACE OF CRISIS FOR NEIGHBORS

Buenos Aires, March 21.—Chile has replied to the United States' note asking the former country to "leave nothing undone to prevent a conflict between Peru and Bolivia," according to Santiago dispatches. It is said Chile expresses the opinion that she is unable to attribute greater consequences to anti-Peruvian manifestations in La Paz than "simple agitation by exalted popular elements which in no case could possibly suffice to produce the threat of war."

Chile has no other desire than for peace, and has not considered mobilizing her forces, says the note.